FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Worthless Checks Are Passed on Jewelry Firms in Return for Valuable Diamonds.

USES PRESIDENT McKAY'S NAME

On Pretense That Articles Were to Be Presented to Head of Shurtleff College, They Are Easily Secured.

J. S. Cole and Charles Lutter, while doing his "Christmas shopping" Tuesday, obtained two diamond studs of the first water from local jewelry stores, giving in return bogus checks upon L. F. Abbott, treasurer of Shurtleff College, at Alton, Ill.

A. Kurtzeborn & Co. and W. A. Gill were victimized for \$150 each. The forger laid his plans to include F. H. Ingalis, Mermod & Jacourd and E. H. Kortkamp, but did not attempt to reap a profit from the two former, and the latter possesses a \$150 gold watch only because its case was not good enough to suit the shrewd operator's fastidious tasts. He refused to take the watch in such a Lase, for which Jeweler Kort-

hamp is greatly obliged.

In St. Louis this elever swindler worked his game as "Charles Lutter." He masqueraded as a professor of German at the Alton college, or as city agent for the institution, and pretended that he was commissioned to buy a Christmas present for one of the professors of the college. In some instances he gave out that this present was for "one of the professors" and in others he stated that it was intended for Stanley

McKay, president of the college. He represented that the faculty wished to show some small token of their great re-gard for the head of the institution and that they had contributed to a fund with which to make a purchase. The whole was so very plausible that he walked away with the diamonds without rousing the slightest suspictions until the checks were returned worthless by the Citizens' National Bank of Alton, upon which they were drawn.

FIRST WORKED IN ALTON. Cole, or Lutter, laid his plans carefully, beginning operations in Alton. A week ago he called upon L. C. Cole of Alton, a Methodist minister. He joked about the "co-incidence" in the matter of names and asked to be referred to a good boarding-house. He said that he intended entering a brother student at Shurtleff College and would live in Alton himself, going to and from his work daily in St. Louis, where he said he was employed in the Missouri Pacific shore.

Pricific shops.

The minister referred him to Mrs. M. A. Brown. He took a good room and was very particular about having it fitted up nicely, and said that he was delighted to set into a good Methodist family. Then he called upon L. F. Albott, treasurer of the college, telling the same story about a brother. Incidentally, he possessed himself of some of the college stationery. He remained in Alton two days. Mrs. Brown asked him for board, but he said that he nsked him for board, but he said that he had not the money, but that his brother would be up at once with the necessary tray the expenses of bringing his trunks from the station to the bouse. This Mrs. Brown refused and he departed, saying he was going to see about his trunks. But

His next step was to pen letters to the named, using the Shurtle These were all written in heat business hand and signed "L. F. Abbott," They were all alike. The one to Mr. Gill will serve as a sample. It reads: LETTER TO JEWELER GILL.

W. A. Gill, St. Louis, Mo.: Dear Sit—We have instructed our city agent, Mr. Charles Lutter, to call upon you for toe Putrose of aslecting a charmond stud, not to exceed 115, as a present to one of our professors from his pupils. You he teen recommended to us by one of our boys w tity then for size. Respectfully,

These were posted to arrive Tuesday morning. Mr. Charles Lutter made his vis-its the same afternoon. With the air of a man "full of business," wearing natty nan "full of business," wearing natty ville, other and speaking with a slightly Ger-He was met by Mr. Ed. Morrison, one of

The letter had not awakened any suspicions and suitable diamonds of about the price named had been set aside. These were shown the sufficient representative of the college, he examined them exceptly and with as much nochalance as if h a conneisseur of diamonds. He criticised one stone as he proceeded to the examina-tion of another. Finally his selection was made, and he presented the check. It was signed by "L. F. Abbott," in the same hand in which the letters were written and was certified by the Citizen's National Bank of

KURTZEBORN ALSO SWINDLED. The paper was accepted without question and "Mr. Charles Linter" walked away with the diamond. A similar visit was made upon the Kurizeborn company with the same result. A similar check was given n return for the diamond.

At approximately the same time a simi-lar scene was enacted at E. H. Kortkamp's store, No. 612 North Brandway. The excep-tion was that a watch figured in this instance. Descriptions indicate that the vian argument ensued about the case. The stranger absolutely refused to accepwatch in the case which accompanied it and departed, saying he would return in an and get the watch. He left one his \$150 checks, which sub-equent investi

gation showed was worthless. Lutter, or Cole, is described as about 2 years old, with a small black mustache, sharp nose, a German cast of countenan German accent, not large in stature, bu well built. He wore a brown overcoat necktie. The police are searching for him he made no attempt to copy the handwrit-ing of Treasurer Abbott, but relied on the plausibility of his scheme.

※ あるなぐとらなららるからなるなる J. P. MORGAN'S TENANT

SUES HIM FOR DAMAGES. New York, Dec. 21.-J. Pierpont Morgan has been summoned to ap- ♦ . pear in the District Municipal Court . to answer in a suit brought against 🐠 his for \$250 damages.

The claimant, a temant in a house o owned by Mr. Morgan, asks these damages on the ground that he address on the ground that he are cought a severe cold through the BILLION-DOLLAR GAS TRUST house not being heated, owing to

TRIPLETS FOR CHRISTMAS.

Five Children Born to Kentucky Couple in Eighteen Months.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Danville, Ky., Dec. 24.-Triplets have comto the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hall in nearly all the principal cities of Europe of Lincoln County as a Christmas present. This makes a total of five children in eighteen months, the others being twins. They have been married three years. York capital is represented in the project. ten days for Paris to perfect the deal,

SWINDLER BUYS GEMS THIRTY PERSONS ARE INJURED IN A POOLROOM EXPLOSION.

Turf Exchange at Hot Springs, Ark., Wrecked While Big Crowd Is Surging Inside-No One Is Killed, but Several Are Reported Dving-Accident Occurs While Driver Fills a Gasoline Tank - Is Arrested on Charge of Carelessness.

ALL PHYSICIANS IN THE CITY ARE BUSY ATTENDING MAIMED. MONEY BOX HAS DISAPPEARED.

state. One of the most pumble sights was

R. C. Chambers, one of the proprietors of

DRIVER DETAINED.

thorities as to the cause of the explosion,

allowed the tank to overflow, the gasoline

heat of the room, caused the explosion.

BANK ROLL RECOVERED.

first reported that Chambers and Edward

killed, but Vivell escaped with severe cut-

and bruises. He had no time to get his

this was afterwards found and returned to

It is almost impossible to get a complete

injured refuse to divulge their names or ad-

dresses, and it will be several days before

The Turf building was a two-story fron and brick. The poolroom was on the ground

floor, in the rear of the Turf Saloon, and

was one story only. The explosion blew the entire roof away, and rafters and pieces of

Mr. Charles Walker of the firm of Cham-

bers & Walker said to-night that they would

rebuild at once and workmen will commence

DISASTROUS FREIGHT WRECK.

Engines Meet Head-On and Cars Are

Piled High Above Bodies of the

Dend and Intured.

Trinidad, Cal., Dec. 24.-Six men were

killed in a freight wreck, which occurred

one and one-half miles north of here on

the Colorado and Southern Railroad at 6:45

McDERMOT, brakeman of extra

J. W. GOLDTRIP, engineer on regular freight.

— KING, machinist on regular.

Unidentified brakeman on regular.

Unidentified brakeman on regular.

PLMER PEARCE, engineer on extra; gash or

end; badly scalled. FRED GILBERT, riding on extra; badly

The cause of the accident, according to a

statement by Engineer Pearce of the extra

out orders expecting to meet passenger No

2 at Bowen, ten miles north of here. At 6:37 extra northbound freight, in charge of

Conductor Bronson, carrying fourteen cars loaded with merchandise and machinery,

Less than ten minutes later, just as the

were rounding a sharp curve not more than

a mile from the Colorado and Southern

yards, they saw regular freight train No

25 hearing down upon them, not more than

100 yards distant. No. 28 was a heavy train

of forty cars loaded with coal, and was

Before any of the seven trainmen could

jump for safety the two trains crashed to-

tendance of several representative English

men at the meeting of the Civic Federation

for a careful study of the heavily financed

enterprises in course of development in this

city has resulted in the awakening of Eng-

lishmen of affairs to the fact that the rich-

. As a member of one banking firm said to-

in the course of development as to-day. It

will be remembered that the English repre-

sentatives were keenly alive to the magni-

tude and importance of the various tunnels

and bridges, the rapid transit and the

\$300,000.000. Other New York capitalists

alleged to be interested are Anthony Brady,

Light and Coke Company and Anthony

C. K. G. Billings of the People's

D. O. Mills and A. R. Flower.

day: "Never in the history of New York

est field for investment is here.

toaded with merchandise and pulled out of the yards here.

running at a fair rate of speed.

IN NEW YORK TRANSIT COMPANY.

to be greatly benefited by foreign capital of Labor and the opportunity then offered

ed in the rapid transit company has put up. have there been as many great enterprises

Chicago, Dec. 24.-The Daily News to-day | John D. Rockfeller is credited with being

says that capital to the amount of nearly a a prospective stockholder to the amount of

A Chicago man is alleged to be the origi- Brady, said to be the prime movers in the

nator of the scheme, and Chicago and New | venture, the story runs, will depart within

PROJECTED BY CHICAGOANS.

It is generally believed that the recent at- Pennsylvania Railroad enterprise."

o'clock this evening. The dead are:

J. FOX, fireman of extra freight.

bruised.

timber were picked up a block away.

SIX TRAINMEN KILLED IN

Mayer, who is managing the room.

the exact number is known.

R. C. Chambers, although suffering with

After a thorough examination by the au-

Hot Springs, Ark., Dec. 24.-Thirty per- when "Billy" Helwig, the blind manager sons were cut and mangled-many of them of the Lamar Bathhouse, was taken from fatally injured by a gaoline explosion the ruins. Helwig is widely known to in the Turf Exchange poolroom this after- thousands of visitors who come to Hot noon. Several of the victims are not expect- | Springs annually,

ed to live through the night. ed to live through the night.

It was crowed to its fullest capacity when the terrific explosion came and it is almost miraculous that many more were not of the best-known sporting men in the counmaimed for life. The force of the explo- try. His condition is seriousion caused the heavy walls to fall in, cutting and bruising those who escaped more

severe injury. There was pandemenium following the the police have detained Ben Murray, a explosion and the injered were trampled driver of a gasoline wagon owned by the ander the feet of those who escaped in Waters Pierce Oil Company. They charge their efforts to leave the wrecked building. him with carclessness in handling combus Every surgeon in the city is busy to-might | tibles, binding wounds, amputating arms and legs | The Turf building and poolroom was lightand attending those who were injured in- ed by gasoline of the highest proof. Murternally.

St. Louis, who sustained a fracture of the Girm.

The wounded and dying are: TOM OGIER, engineer at the Arlington Hotel, city, both legs broken, internal injuries will die. H. G. GEORGE of New York, leg broke, guest Milwaukee fintel. 3. S. MEEKS, city, cut on head, badly bruised about the body.

body and legs.
Blind BILLY HELLEMIG, city, both legs

broken, will die. F. CRANFIELD, Cincinnati, legs bruised and hree ribs broken, WALTER POWERS, St. Louis, arm broken. EUGENE DALY, city, both legs broken and addy bruised about the body.

TOMMY PHELAN, telegraph operator, city, R. C. CHAMBERS, city, both arms and one g broken, fracture of several ribs. SCOTTY MOORE, city, injured about legs.

JAMES COWAN, city, both legs broken, WILLIE METZGER, 12 years old, city, both ge broken and injured about nead, CHARLES PACE, city, both legs broken, in

ernal algiries.

JIM COUGHLIN, plumber, city, leg broken and badly injured about the bidy.

C. G. CARSON, Chicago, both legs broken.

C. R. DONNELLY, No. 29) State street, Chicago, who is not expected to live through the

light; leg broken in two places; wrist broken F. ADELMAN, city; cut about the head, W. H. GASCON, New York City; one leg

ALF HOTCHKISS, city; fracture of know, FRED GREGORY, severely bruised, J. CRAWFORD, Cincinnatt, less and wrist

J. C. BURCH, city; beg broken; not expected W. S. McINERNEY, Louisville, Ky.; almost JOHN E. GANER, city; brutsed.

HENRY LINDSAY, New York; feet injured. ED VIVELL, cashier Turf Exchange; cut and

BOBERT POTTS, New York; both legs broken W. H. NYE, Chicago; right leg and left kne-

EGB KINNEY: four ribs fractured and in-Physicians responded when the terrific

shock sounded, and converted all nearby stores and offices into temporary hospitals where surgery was carried on and aid extended to the injured. R. C. Chambers, of Chambers & Walker, owners of the Turf Exchange, is in a very

critical condition, but his broken arms and broken leg have been set and he is resting Charles Walker was in the second story

of the room at the time and escaped uninjured, as did also Andy Granger of Louis-

WHOLE BLOCK SHOOK. Sam Mayer and Barney Wolf, Chicago scaped with slight injuries. Twelve others sustained bruises and slight

When the explosion occurred, about 4 train, was that the regular train had been o'clock this afternon, the postroom was overlooked, the extra train running withrowded with more than 200 persons. Just is a race at New Orleans was being called by the operator the floor of the building seemed to rise, and in an instant a report that shook the entire block rang out.

The upper floor and back walls of the building fell on the mass of struggling men, who were wildly scrambling to escape to the street. The entire house looked as if a tornado had plowed through its center. The front glass windows were broken and both sides of the structure were shattered by the concussion.

The news of the disaster spread repidly nd soon Central avenue was jammed. Reports were current that several persons | gether. Fourteen cars of the regular train had been killed. The police and firemen i were completely wrecked and seven of the trok charge of the building, and the work | extra demolished. Both of the engines are of rescue began. Men were pulled from complete wrecks. The bodies of the dead under the debris in a terribly shattered are stal under the wreckage.

New York, Dec. 24.-That this city is likely

in the development of its improvements to

meet the demands of an ever increasing

population was strongly emphasized to-day

by a report current in Wall street that the

Rothschilds of London have invested \$10,-

600,000 in the Interborough Company, This

is a larger sum than any other one interest-

In local financial circles the report is gen-

rally accepted as true, and taken to in-

licate that London financiers intend to

make a strong bld for a large interest in

billion dollars is reported to be represented

in the formation of a gigantic gas trust.

and the large interests of London

which will include the different companies

other big local enterprises.

ROTHSCHLDS INVEST \$10,000,000

AGEO MAN MURDERED FOR HIS TREASURE IN A CIGAR STORE

Body Shows Evidence of Assault With a Knife and Heavy Instrument.

Victim Was Seventy-Five Years Old and is Supposed to Have Hoarded His Savings.

NOISE AIDED ROBBERS' ESCAPE.

While Murder Is Being Committed the Christmas Crowd Is Blowing Horns and Discharging Fireworks Outside of the Shop,

Among those hurt was Walter Powers of in the rear of the building, and, it is said, | SUMMARY OF ONE STRENUOUS |

CHRISTMAS EVE IN ST. LOUIS. • running all over the floor of the rear walk John Moog, a cigar dealer, 75 years • adjoining the building. Some one opened | old, was murdered by robbers in his o the back door of the poolroom and the gas-oline vapor, coming in contact with the Edward Canty, who shot into a • street crowd at Seventh and Olive . Murray has been arrested, and is now con- ♦ streets, mortally wounded William ♦

fined in the hospital. He was burned about | Sice, a Wabash Rallroad clerk. JUDGE JONES, Hot Springs, bruised about body and legs.

Bind BILLY HELLEMIG, city, both legs broken, will die.

F. CRANFIELD, Cincinnati, legs bruised and process of the completely wrecked, and will have to be torn away, as that part of it which remains is almost ready to collapse.

Sice, a wansan Manset Coll.

The head and face. The entire building is completely wrecked, and will have to be torn away, as that part of it which remains is almost ready to collapse.

Sice, a wansan Manset Coll.

The head and face of the head by persons celebrating at the head and the head by persons celebrating at the head and the head by persons celebrating at the head and the hea • ed for blowing horns in the ears of •

R. C. Chambers, although suffering with both arms broken, one in two places, and Nine alar Nine alarms of fire were turned in . one leg broken in two places, is the most between 3 o'clock in the afternoon prominent of those severely injured. He and 3 o'clock in the morning.

prominent of those severely injured. He will in all probability recover. It was at While throngs of happy Christmas shop-Vivell, the cashier of the poolroom, were pers crowded the downtown streets last night, filling the air with shouts of good "bank rell" of nearly \$50,000, but most of cheer, John Moog, 75 years old, was murlered in his little cigar store at No. 104 South Fourth street, opposite the Southern

list of those injured at this hour. No new Moog was found with his skull crushed names have been learned. Many who were and throat slashed by a knife, lying in a pool of blood which almost covered the entire floor of the little shop.

Mrs. Stella Niver, who lives over the cigar store, discovered the body shortly before 12 o'clock. She was returning from a Christmas shopping expedition, and, having forgotten her latchkey, shook the door of the cigar store to arouse Moog and bor-

To her surprise the door was unlatched. Calling and receiving no answer she be-came frightened and crossed to the drug store at the corner of Walnut and Fourth streets to request one of the clerks to investigate.

BODY STRETCHED ON FLOOR IN A POOL OF BLOOD.

Together the woman and clerk returned to the store. The clerk entered the place and struck a match. On the floor, clad only in his night clothes, lay the body of the aged man soaked in his own blood. With a scream Mrs. Niver ran terror stricken from the store. Patrolman Hoffman of the Central District heard the creams and hurried to the store.

The patrolman quickly notified headquarters, and he was soon joined by Sergeant McKenna, Sergeant Kavanaugh and Patrolmen Riley and Joplin.

The body of the murdered man was still warm. It lay face downward, with the head on the threshold of the sleeping-room, behind the stove. The police say that, from the position of the body, the murderer must have felled the old man to the ground after the deadly thrust.

THEORY OF SUICIDE NOT SUPPORTED BY EVIDENCE.

Examination disclosed that the rear door was found locked from the inside. At first it was thought that, possibly, it may have been a case of suicide, but there was found no knife or weapon which could have possibly inflicted the wound. Moog lived alone in the rear of the store.

and, as far as is known, had no near relatives. In the neighborhood he was reputed to be wealthy. It was his custom to close the store at

10 o'clock each evening. Occasionally he went to a neighboring lunch stand at night after business hours to purchase a light lunch which he took to the store. Last night he was seen at 10:30 o'clock.

When Mrs. Niver first reached the store it was 11:25. The police say they believe the murderer had only a short time before left the scene of his crime. Patrolman Joplin, who knew Moog, said

that he heard some time ago that the old man kept a money box hidden under the counter in which was stored a large amount Parly this morning a search was made of

the premises, but no trace of the box could be discovered.

CHILD BURNED TO A CRISP. Mother Left Infant Before Fire

place in a Box. REPUBLIC SPECIAL. Paducah, Ky., Dec. 24.-An 18-months-old

oaby of Cora Wilson was burned to death in Marshall County. The mother left the infant in a box in front of the greplace and when she returned it was burned to a crisp,

SLIGHT CHANGE FOR BETTER. Mrs. Dockery, However, Is Still in Critical Condition.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 24.-Mrs. A. M. Dockery's condition at 19 o'clock to-night showed marked improvement,

No stimulants have been necessary for the last seven hours, and she slept without opiates from 6 o'clock to nearly 8. The appearances to-night were so reassuring that her physician is inclined to en-

tertain hope. Governor Dockery said to-night that Mrs. Dockery's condition seemed to be better than at any time during the last two days. Mrs. Dockery had made many Christma purchases for her friends before being taken ill and to-day asked that all her gifts

be sent out. Nevertheless, she is still in a most critical condition and grave fear is yet entertained for her recovery.

MARCONI SENDING WIRELESS MESSAGES. SHOT INTO CROWD ON



STATION AT CAPE BRETON. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dec. 24.-Wireless curacy with which messages may be trans-

messages sent in Italian by Mr. Marconi to | mitted. King of Italy, to the lady in waiting to the graph Company in London:
"My best Christmas wishes to my co at Poldhu. Cornwall, by operators who have no knowledge of the Italian language. This The is considered an interesting proof of the ac- 1 the Christmas holidays.

General Brusaldi, first aid-de-camp to the to the director of Marconi Wireless Tele-The following message was sent to-day

ian Minister of Marine have been received directors and their families, sent for the The Glace Bay station is now closed for

VENEZUELAN BLOCKADE TANGLE

Lack of Unanimity Among the Al lies Leads to Great Annovance-President Roosevelt Considering Invitation to Arbitrate Trouble -Regarded Probable That the President Will Accept Offer.

IF ALLIES HAVE AIDED REBELS ASPECT WILL BE CHANGED.

SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK | allow the Caracas to remain in the harbor. HERALD AND THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC. | that in the dark, it would be difficult to see La Guayra, Venezuela, Dec. 24.-(Copyright, 1992.)-The blockade tangle here 's PUERTO CABELLO growing decidedly worse,

Apparently there is no thorough understanding between the allied commanders. New questions and new complications crop up as soon as decisions are made. All preedents are being violated.

Thus far the only effect has been to cause slight loss to the Government and a tremendous loss to the merchants. It is also worthy of note that the heaviest loss falls upon the representatives of the blockading nations. Outside the harbor the American steamer Caracas remained last night. She had more than 3,000 packages aboard still undischarged.

There was some misunderstanding regarding the Caracas, as she transferred part of her cargo to the British steamship the Yucatan, while at the port of Curacao and the Yucatan was not permitted to enter the harbor

Mail was placed on board the Caracas today, although the ship did not return to the breakwater. It is understood that hereafter the Red D Line steamship will touch at La Guayra for the purpose of taking on mail, but will accept no passengers, on account of the quarantine at San Juan, where there is as much yellow fever as at Carnens.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL Washington, Dec. 21.-President Rossevelt will in all probability accede within forty eight hours to the request of the Powers that he arbitrate the Venezuelan question. The formal notes of Great Britain, Germany and Italy reached the State Depart-

ment this evening. It is understood that the requests that he se arbitrator are couched in such language that his refusal to serve would not necessarily mean no arbitration. In other words, there is a way out for the

President if he wishes it. That way out is

The Hague.

After luncheon the President and Secre tary Hay had a long conference, when all spects of the situation were considered. The decision of the President may be made within two days or may be delayed. It is felt that since the Powers have taken such a long time in formulating their offer this Government should not be hurried. Yet the President is known to be disposed to act with all speed in this matter, for law, who will act as counsel for Commhe realizes that the conditions of the blockade are such that almost any moment an

unpleasant incident may occur through the obstinacy of some skipper or from a serious misunderstanding as to the terms of the blockade that may lessen the chances of a peaceful settlement of the Venezuelan Ameng the many points which must be

carefully considered is that of the relations between the allies and President Castro's enemies in arms. The allies seem to have put themselves in the position of aiding the revolutionists. It would be impossible for the President

of the United States to arbitrate if it should be shown that since he had made the offer German and Italian ships had been giving a revolutionary party of Venezuela arms 🕹 body of John Allen, a relative, from 🔸 and supplies. Although must interest is taken here in

forced last night to leave La Guayra haror, though only partly unloaded, no comdication is expected.

It is intimated as a possible reason for the • they are sole heirs of John Allen position taken by the allies in declining to med of the object of the ob

what was being taken out of her hold.

PRESENTS SCENE OF COMPLETE DESOLATION.

SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK HERALD AND THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC. Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 24.-(Copyright 1902)-It is impossible to describe the con ditions of desolation to be seen in the vicin ity of Puerto Cabello. Had a cyclone swept over the country greater damage could not have been done nor could greater suffering have been caused the inhabitants than has followed the bombardment of last Saturday, I have just returned from a visit to Puerto Cabello, where I was permitted to make an inspection of the forts after I had observed the surrounding country. It is of interest to know that the fortress, built long ago by the Spanlards, was little damaged by the shots from the ships of the allies,

From an officer attached to the Charyb dis I learned that a much greater quantity of powder was burned by the allies than had been supposed. The German cruiser Vineta fired twenty shots of 350 pounds each. The Charybdis was even more active, firing twenty-six 200-pound shots, 280 shots of 100 pounds each and 620 of the 50pounders into Puerto Cabello. All of this was done at a range varying from 1,200 to 1.500 yards and within thirty-two min-Considering the powder burned and the

number of shells fired, the result does little credit to the skill and marksmanship of the men behind the guns of the foreign

GERMANY BELIEVES ROOSEVELT WOULD GIVE EARLY DECISION. Berlin, Dec. 24.-Germany is anxious to

receive President Roosevelt's acceptance of the formal invitation from Germany and Great Britain to act as arbitrator in the Venezuelan controversy. The German Government's preference is

very decidedly in favor of arbitration through President Roosevelt rather than through The Hague tribunal, because it be lieves the President will reach an early de cision, whereas The Hague court would require many months.

The officials here also insist that it is to the United States' advantage to have the President decide the matter. The German Steamer Siberia, which salled from Hamburg for Venezuela yesterday, carried an expert on international

dore Scheder in technical legal questions arising during the blockade. The German cruiser Sperder, is hurrying preparations to sail from Kiel for Vene-

................ "PETRIFIED MAN'S RELATIVES BRING SUIT. 2

Des Moines, Dec. 24.-The Rex Embalming Company, W. F. Pettis & Co. and W. C. Harbach, undertakers and embalmers, have been made de-▲ fendants in a suit for \$10,000 dam-· ages brought by Eleanor and Homer · · Langford, who allege that the de-• fendants unlawfully removed the • the grave in 1896, embalmed it and . have since been exhibiting it in Des he case of the steamer Caracas, which was | Moines and over the State as a petri-← fied man.

The plaintiffs base their claim on outraged feelings and the fact that

DOWNTOWN STREET

Edward Canty Thought He Was Being Held Up at Seventh and Olive Streets.

WILLIAM SLEE HIT IN NECK.

Friend of Injured Man Says They Were Only Chiding Canty, Thinking He Was Intoxicated.

A recurrence of pistol shots in the midst of Christmas festivities suddenly stopped the throng of holiday revelers at Seventh and Olive streets about 11:30 last night. When the police reached the scene they found William G. Slee of No. 3869 Windsor place lying on the pavement with a bullet wound in his neck. Edward Canty, a saloonkeeper residing at No. 2835 St. Louis avenue, who did the shooting, was rushing nervously about flourishing his revolver. Slee was hurried to the City Hospital, where it was found that he was shot through the neck and that the body was partly paralyzed from the wound. He cannot live but a few hours, the physicians say. Canty was placed under arrest after being disarmed and taken to the Four Courts.

The latter is about 70 years old and claims he shot Siee in self-defense. The wounded man refused to discuss the shooting. Louis F. Bent, of No. 2173 Linten avenue, who was in company with Slee, was also arrested.

According to Canty, he was waiting at the northeast corner of Seventh and Olive streets for a Cass avenue car when two men approached him from the rear, one of whom, he thought, placed his hand in Canty's overcoat pocket. The latter drew nis revolver and, wheeling about, fired several shots. One of the men fell to the sidewalk

wounded. Canty continued to fire until several policemen arrived and took his revolver from him. He was in a highly excited state of mind and declared that he had been held up.

BOTH ARE HELD PRISONERS. An ambulance and patrol wagon were called and Slee was removed in the first to the City Hospital via the City Dispensary. Canty was taken to the Four Courts, where he is being held a prisoner. He had a large IS RAPIDLY BECOMING WORSE. sum of money on his person and several packages containing Christmas gifts. Canty said the money represented the day's receipts of his saloon, which is located at No.

308 North Levee. The firing of the shots caused no end of excitement in the streets in the neighborhood where it occurred. There were over a hundred persons in the immediate vicinity at the time, and they hastened to the scene, thinking some one had been mur-

Bent, who is a clerk in the employ of the Wabash Railroad Company, denied that he and Siee had attempted to hold up Canty. ing on the corner waiting for a car and that they started to chide the old man, who, they thought, was under the influence of liquor. Slee slapped Canty on the back and the latter retaliated. He was knocked down by the younger men and when he arose he drew his revolver and commenced

According to Bent, Slee is also employed at the Wabash Railroad office. Both men had been out celebrating Christmas Eve and were on their way home when the

shooting occurred.

The police say that neither Slee nor Bent have ever been in trouble before.

LEADING TOPICS ARINAA TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC

THE SUN RISES THIS MORNING AT 7:17 AND SETS THIS EVENING AT 4:45. THE MOON RISES TO-MORROW MORN-

WEATHER INDICATIONS. For St. Louis and Vicinity-Fair and

older. For Missouri-Fair Thursday, colder in south. Friday fair. For Illinois-Fair Thursday, colder in south. Friday fair, continued cold.

For Arkansas-Fair, colder Thursday, Friday fair. For East Texas-Fair Thursday, fair in northwest and interior of south.

Page.

1. Shot Into Crowd on Downtown Street. Venezuelan Blockade Tangle. Swindler Buys Gems for Christmas Gifts Thirty Injured in Poolroom Explosion.

. . Would Send Negroes to Work in Hawaff. Princess Confesses Through a Letter. War Minister's Son Forces Resignation, Tries to Revise Naval Education. 3. Wealthy Mine Owner Has Mysteriously Disappeared. Clerkship in Senate Offered to Newsboy.

Assemblage of Teachers Will Include State's Most Prominent Educators. Musgrave and Clark Indorsed. 4. Eastern Crowd Make a Killing.

Gardner to Meet Carter on Monday. Bowling Results. 5. Money Is Divided Among the Holidays. Emory S. Foster Dies in California. Deep Inquiry Into Charges of Cruelty.

6. Christmas Sentiments From Clergymea. Half a Million Dollars to Employes for Christmas. Children Gather Around Historical Tree.

Lemon Juice to Prevent Typhoid. 7. Life From Japan on Fair Midway. J. A. Edson Succeeds Manager Herbert. Physicians Indorse Consumptive Asylum.

8. Editorial. 9. Smithsonian Institution Exhibit at the Fair. Holiday Business Greatest of Record.

Secrecy to Attend Return of Humberts. 19. Republic "Want" Advertisements. Birth, Marriage and Death Records, New Corporations.

11. Rooms for Rent Advertisements. 12. Summary of St. Louis Markets.

Grains Close Steady on Holiday Trading. 13. Stock Market Closes Firm. Local Securities Active.

14. Wagoner Requests Recount of Ballots.

Mississippi Valley May Absorb Common wealth. Seef Merger Again Denied.

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